

Interactive Bible Projects

There are a variety of ways to involve a Sabbath School class in interactive learning. The following are examples of several approaches that will lead groups or individuals through an interactive learning exercise that will assure the use of Scripture in the class. Any subject can be addressed through this assignment-style approach to teaching.

Scripture Search

●Recently Sonya lied to her friend Jan when she said she liked a new dress Jan had just bought. What do the Scriptural references in this week's lesson of your quarterly say about this kind of "white lie"?

●A friend asks you, "What is the meaning of the name "Seventh-day Adventist"? You explain that "seventh-day" refers to our church's emphasis on the importance of keeping Saturday (the seventh day of the week) holy. You go on to explain that "advent" refers to our church's belief that Jesus is coming soon in His second "advent." "But," your friend asks, "hasn't your church been saying Jesus is coming soon for the past 150 years? Why the delay?" Based on the following Scriptural references, make a list of possible reasons for the delay of Jesus' return: (James 1:2-4; 5:7, 8; 2 Peter 3:8, 9; Revelation 12:10).

●You have found yourself in the center of a strong disagreement between two of your closest friends. Because of the aggressive way Carlos plays basketball, he has permanently injured one of Glenn's eyes. Carlos has asked forgiveness, but Glenn refuses even to speak to him. What scriptural references would help you

in trying to persuade Glenn to forgive Carlos?

●Your best friend Francesca has confided that she constantly worries that she cannot obey God the way He wants her to. She says she just doesn't feel that she will ever measure up to His standards. Using your Bible and a concordance, how would you encourage Francesca?

●Your neighbor Mary-Margaret faithfully attends the nearest Catholic Church. She regularly confesses her sins to a priest, who usually assigns her some act that she must undertake to have her sins forgiven. Using quotations from the Bible, how would you explain to Mary-Margaret that this is not the way to receive the grace of God's forgiveness?

●A visitor to your Sabbath School class points to a picture of Jesus on the wall and says that it should be removed because all physical depictions of Jesus are a form of idolatry that is prohibited by the second commandment. What scriptural quotations can you use to answer this charge?

Bible Paraphrase

●In your own words state the meaning of 1 Cor. 6:19, 20.

●In a news story of 300 words or more, write a full report of the Israelites' crossing of the Red Sea.

●Paraphrase Psalm 23, replacing the symbol of God as a shepherd with another fitting way of describing Him and His

leading.

●Read 2 Chronicles 30 and prepare a report of the incidents described in it as though you were the anchor person for a local television news broadcast. Include, also, the report of a news reporter "on the scene," during the Passover celebration.

Critical Thinking

●Why does Scripture frequently use paradoxes such as the following to teach spiritual truths: "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last" (Mark 9:35, NIV); "We fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen" (2 Cor. 4:18, NIV); and "My yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matt. 11:30, NIV)?

●Using scriptural references, account for the seeming contradiction in the definition of the word *believe* in John 3:16 and James 2:19—"everyone who *believes*" vs. "even the demons *believe*."

Compare and/or Contrast

- Compare or contrast the reactions of Judas and Peter to the trial and death of Jesus.
- Drawing from the life experiences of Abraham, outline the differences between faith and presumption.
- If everyone in your school—students, teachers, and administrators—guided their lives by the principles outlined in Luke 6:27-36, how would life be different there? List six differences.
- After reading Ephesians 6:10-17, make a list of at least three examples from nature that would serve as good illustrations for God’s protection.
- Compare and contrast the procession described in Matt. 21:1-11 with a modern-day parade. Read also the other gospel accounts of this event (Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:29-38; John 12:12-15). As you complete this assignment, consider the following question: What forms of worship are described in Matt. 21:1-11?

Research and Report

- Using a concordance, find four scriptural references that relate to the subject of TV viewing.
- Based on this week’s lesson, trace Paul’s first missionary journey on this map of the Mediterranean area.
- You have been named to a panel to investigate the charge that the story of Jesus’ resurrection was fabricated by His disciples to retain their power over the people. What evidence can you find in Scripture that this was an actual event?
- Using a Bible and concordance, list as many examples of Jesus’ ministry to children as you can find. From the examples you have found, how would you describe Jesus’ attitude toward children?

Case Study

- From the story of Daniel, make a list of principles upon which Christians should base their role as citizens of their countries.
- Judging from Gideon’s experiences, how should a person go about discerning God’s leading in his or her life?
- After reading 2 Samuel 6 carefully, identify three general principles of reverence by which a Christian should conduct himself or herself. Consider specifically each of the following elements of the story: (1) the death of Uzzah; (2) the treatment of the ark by Obed-Edom; (3) the way in which David expressed his joy; (4) Michal’s response to David’s behavior.

Resolving Conflict

- What does the following list of references suggest about the Christian’s use of alcohol: Ps. 104:15; Prov. 20:1; Eccles. 10:19; Matt. 11:19; John 2:3; 1 Tim. 5:23?
- Review the following biblical references and draw from them a principle on which a young Christian may base his relationship with his parents: Exod. 20:12; Prov. 23:22; Matt. 12:46-50; Luke 12:49-53.
- Jesus says, “you will not always have me” (Matt. 26:11, NIV) and “surely I am with you always” (Matt. 28:20, NIV). How do you account for this apparent contradiction?

Support an Opinion or Belief

- Support and explain the following statement of belief by passages of Scripture from this week’s lesson: Those who die do not go immediately to heaven.
 - Outline five specific ways this week’s lesson affirms the idea of the trinity.
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